From: Simmons, Denise
To: Amy Meltzer
Subject: Re: proposed boycott of Hewlett Packard
Date: Monday, April 23, 2018 8:12:40 PM

Dear Ms. Meltzer,

Thank you for your thoughtful email. I must confess that this particular issue is not my area of expertise - I would not presume to know all the intricacies of Israeli politics and the daily goings-on there, nor am I sufficiently well-versed on the BDS movement. I am currently in the process of reading up on this from a variety of different sources, and this process will continue up until such time as this comes before the City Council.

I must also confess that I have yet to see a draft of the proposed resolution, if such a draft exists. I have met with people who have advocated for the HP boycott, I have met with those who are opposed to it, and I am in the process of reaching out to our congressional representatives to seek their opinions on this matter. As with any business before the Council, I am committed to keeping an open mind and learning as much as I can before I determine how I will vote. If this does ultimately come before the City Council, I will look forward to a robust discussion amongst my colleagues and I will do all that I can to ensure that people from all sides of this issue feel they have been given an opportunity to weigh in and be heard. Again, thank you for reaching out and sharing your thoughts on this important matter.

E. Denise Simmons

From: Amy Meltzer <ameltzerma@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 1:24 PM
To: City Council
Subject: proposed boycott of Hewlett Packard

Dear Cambridge City Councilors, Mayor and Vice Mayor,

I am a long term resident of Cambridge, and I am Jewish. I do not see the proposed boycott of Hewlett-Packard as anti-Semitic - it is anti- oppression. Calling the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement anti-Semitic is like saying the sanctions imposed on South Africa during apartheid were anti-white. The purpose of the boycott is to pressure Israel to change its policies in order to restore the rights of the Palestinian people. Please do not cave in to the emotionally charged rhetoric of groups like the Israeli-American Coalition for Action. Please support the progressive values of our city, and vote for the boycott resolution.

Thank you,

Amy Meltzer

Cambridge MA